

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota Office of the Governor

Whereas, Down syndrome is one of the most frequently occurring chromosomal abnormalities, with over 80 percent of children with Down syndrome born to mothers under the age of 35 and affecting more than 400,000 individuals and their families in the United States; and,

Whereas, Individuals with Down syndrome are active and willing participants in the educational, vocational, social, and recreational aspects of our communities; and,

Whereas, The Buddy Walk has grown to over 300 walks across the country and around the world, will have over 285,000 people participate in walks in 2011, and will raise over \$11 million to benefit national education, research, and advocacy initiatives; and,

Whereas, The Ups of Downs Syndrome Family Support Group is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing education, information, awareness events, social opportunities, and emotional support to families of infants, children, and adults with Down syndrome; and,

Whereas, The Ups of Downs 2011 Buddy Walk will promote the awareness, acceptance, and inclusion of individuals with Down syndrome in South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 10, 2011, as

DOWN SYNDROME BUDDY WALK DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-sixth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State